

Indiana Department of Natural Resources 402 W. Washington St. W255 B Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748 Phone: (317) 232-4200

For immediate release: Jan. 23, 2007

State forest open houses start Mar. 1

State forest open houses that will give concerned Hoosiers the chance to provide input on the operation, funding and staffing of respective properties will be hosted by the DNR starting Mar. 1.

The meetings will include displays about recreational activities, budget issues, staffing, major projects, invasive species control and forest resource management. Attendees will have an opportunity to talk with DNR personnel or, if they prefer, to submit written comments concerning forest and recreation management policies and programs. Light refreshments will be served.

"These open houses provide Hoosiers with a chance to receive first-hand information about how the state forests are working to provide diverse wildlife habitat, forest products and recreational opportunities," said DNR director Robert Carter. "They also allow us to receive valuable feedback from our neighbors and users about state forest management issues. I encourage everyone who has an interest in the state forests to participate."

Dates and locations are:

- Thursday, March 1: Martin SF, 3-7 p.m. (CST) 20 miles southwest of Bedford, or 4 miles east of Shoals on U.S. Highway 50. Phone: (812) 247-3491.
- Tuesday, March 13: Morgan-Monroe SF (includes Yellowwood SF), 3-7 p.m. (EST) at the Morgan-Monroe property office, 5 miles south of Martinsville on State Road 37, then about 7 miles east on Old State Road 37 and Forest Road. Phone: (765) 342-4026.
- Wednesday, March 21: <u>Salamonie River SF (includes Salamonie Reservoir)</u>, 3-7 p.m. (EST) at the Interpretative Center at Salamonie Reservoir. Phone: (260) 468-2125.
- Thursday, March 22: <u>Harrison-Crawford SF</u>, 3-7 p.m. (EST) -- at the state forest office, located 11 miles west of Corydon (8 miles west on State Road 62, then south on State Road 462 to O'Bannon Woods entrance; follow signs to the office). Phone: (812) 738-7694.
- Wednesday, March 28: <u>Jackson-Washington SF (includes Starve Hollow Beach SRA and Selmier SF)</u>, 3-7 p.m. (EST) at the Jackson-Washington SF property office, 2.5 miles southeast of Brownstown on State Road 250. Phone: (812) 358-2160.
- Tuesday, April 10: <u>Greene-Sullivan SF</u>, 3-7 p.m. (EDT) at the property office, 1.5 miles south of Dugger on State Road 159. Phone: (812) 648-2810.

- Wednesday, April 18: Owen-Putnam SF, 3-7 p.m. (EDT) at the property office, 6 miles west of Spencer on State Road 46 (5 miles west of Spencer on SR 46, then one mile north on Fish Creek Road). Phone (812) 829-2462.
- Thursday, April 26: <u>Ferdinand SF (includes Pike SF)</u>, 3-7 p.m. (CDT) at the Ferdinand SF property office, approximately one hour east of Evansville or 20 minutes south of Jasper on State Road 264, 4 miles northeast of Ferdinand. Phone: (812) 367-1524.
- Saturday, May 12: <u>Deam Lake SRA (includes Clark SF)</u>, 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m. (EDT) at the Deam Lake Nature Center, located 9 miles west of Sellersburg on State Road 60. Phone: (812) 246-5421.

For more information or detailed directions, please call the state forest office at the number listed for that property.

The DNR Division of Forestry promotes and practices good stewardship of natural, recreational and cultural resources on Indiana's public and private forest lands. This stewardship produces continuing benefits, both tangible and intangible, for present and future generations.

-30-

Media Contact: Marty Benson, senior communications specialist, (317) 233-3853, cell (317) 696-9812); Tom Lyons, assistant state forester, (317) 232-4105.